

Virginia for nearly 30 years as a member of the Virginia General Assembly. I had the privilege of working on our region's behalf with Delegate Johnson, and like many, was saddened by news of his retirement.

Born in Washington County, Virginia, Delegate Johnson attended Meadowview High School and served in the United States Air Force during the Korean War. He graduated from Emory and Henry College, which happens to be my alma mater as well, and went on to receive his law degree from the University of Richmond.

Delegate Johnson first represented Southwest Virginia in the House of Delegates in the 1960s. Construction on I-81 was not complete at that time, however. After several years making the long drive from Abingdon to Richmond, Joe understandably chose to prioritize his young family and took a twenty-year hiatus from life as a lawmaker. He successfully ran for office again in 1989, and has represented Southwest Virginia in the House of Delegates ever since.

Throughout his career, Delegate Johnson was involved in numerous issues related to education, playing a key role in establishing the Commonwealth's community college system and the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission as well. We may have been members of different political parties, but Joe could always be counted on to work both sides of the aisle on behalf of our region.

Even outside of his legislative work, Delegate Johnson has been an active leader for Southwest Virginia. Throughout the years, Joe has taught Sunday school and served as chairman of the Abingdon Baptist Church, and was involved in the Abingdon Civitan volunteer service club, the Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Foundation, and the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission Center. He was once chairman of the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, and also served as vice chairman and trustee. Joe was on the board of trustees of the Center for Rural Virginia, and was chair of the Emory and Henry College board of trustees. He is former post commander of American Legion Post 13, former worthy patron of the Order of the Eastern Star, former master of the Abingdon Masonic Lodge 48, a Kazim Shriner, and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, McCabe Lodge. Joe was president of the Washington County Bar Association, and was a member of the Virginia State Bar. He also has been a substitute judge on the Twenty-eighth General District Court.

Delegate Johnson has long been a fixture throughout the community, regularly seen at church, sporting events, city council meetings, board of supervisors meetings, and other community events. Delegate Johnson can always be counted on for a warm smile and, during times of stress or strife, families in his area always could rely on Joe to be there to comfort them. His door was always open, and I know that those he has represented over the years have appreciated his involvement.

Throughout the years, Delegate Johnson has proven himself a dedicated friend of Southwest Virginia. I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with and learned from him, and have no doubt that I will see my friend Joe again soon. Delegate Johnson, I wish you and your loved ones the very best of luck in all of your future endeavors.

HONORING DOLLY JEWEL

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Dolly Jewel of Cape Girardeau, Missouri for her achievements and impact in the community. For many years, Ms. Jewel has devoted both her time and her heart to the Alzheimer's Association in Southeast Missouri, to the great benefit of the community. Ms. Jewel hosts a monthly support group at the Lutheran Home, served on the Southeast Missouri Area Advisory Committee for Alzheimer's Disease, and has planned, coordinated, and implemented annual Walk to End Alzheimer's Disease events. Through these outlets she has sought to increase awareness of the disease, as well as raise money to fund medical research. Ms. Jewel's fight against Alzheimer's Disease became personal when she lost her husband to Alzheimer's in 1997, after an 8 year battle with the disease. Since then, Ms. Jewel is pleased that many advances have been made in the treatment of Alzheimer's, but she knows there is more work to be done.

As well as making a strong public effort in her local community to fight Alzheimer's Disease, Ms. Jewel also works to help lend support to others experiencing the disease. She takes pride in encouraging others to be open about their own experiences with the disease and to not feel embarrassed about acknowledging the disease. She adamantly insists to others that they are not alone, and encourages them to seek social support. Ms. Jewel has provided support and inspiration for many families affected by Alzheimer's Disease, and I truly admire her strength and dedication to helping others.

REMEMBERING SEAN ANTHONY JACQUES

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Sean Anthony Jacques of Big Bear Lake, California.

Having lived in the area since the age of seven, Sean attended Big Bear Lake Elementary, Middle School, and High School. After his High School graduation, Sean joined the United States Navy and served as an FC2 for six years. Upon the completion of his service, Sean returned to Big Bear Lake to work for the Big Bear Mountain Resorts. He served there and dedicated fifteen years to the area.

Sean is survived by his wife, Suzanne, his son Anthony, and daughter Alexandra, his parents, sister, and his many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I submit his favorite poem by Ralph Waldo Emerson. His wife Suzanne has dedicated this to him after his death.

(By Ralph Waldo Emerson)

"To laugh often and love much; to win the respect of intelligent persons and the affection of children; to earn the approbation of honest citizens and endure the betrayal of

false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to give of one's self; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to have played and laughed with enthusiasm and sung with exultation; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived—this is to have succeeded."

HONORING DAVID COEN

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished Vermonter, Mr. David Coen, who is retiring from the Vermont Public Service Board, the state agency that regulates our public utilities, after 18 years of exemplary service.

There is no state agency that has a more direct impact on Vermonters' quality of life and economic well-being than the Vermont Public Service Board. Every Vermonter and every business in our state depends on this influential regulatory body to ensure the quality, availability, and affordability of electric, gas, cable, telecommunications, and water services.

David Coen was appointed to the Board by Governor Howard Dean in 1995 and has served with distinction for three terms. As a small-business owner who keenly understood the economic challenges of everyday Vermonters and the importance of high quality and reliable customer service, David was uniquely qualified to take on this challenge. Every day he served, he brought the perspective of the customer to the many challenging decisions in which he participated. David understood well utility law and public policy, but his top priority was to make sure the decisions made by the Board made practical and economic sense for Vermonters.

David's leadership and expertise on utility issues extended well beyond the borders of Vermont. He served in several national leadership positions, including Board Chair of the National Regulatory Research Institute and President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). At NARUC, David was the skillful and diplomatic voice of the association before Congress, the courts, and administrative agencies.

Characteristically, he brought his laser-like focus on the customer to the national stage. The theme of his NARUC presidency was "Keeping the Focus: Serving the Public Interest in Changing Times." He also served as chair of NARUC's Consumer Affairs Committee.

Within the Public Service Board, David believed strongly in providing staff with opportunities for professional growth. With this goal in mind, he played a leading role in the creation of regulatory partnerships with other countries, such as Macedonia and Georgia. He also recognized the value to Vermont of good relationships with utility regulators in neighboring jurisdictions, working to foster productive relationships with both American and Canadian regulators.

David's strong legacy reflects his rich personal life and deep commitment to public service. His wife, Sandy Berbeco, is a professional